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length of the body, which is about five lines. In one instance I saw a brown Hydra from the Schuylkill, the body of which was five lines in length, elongate its arms to nearly three inches. The green Hydra is found more especially on the under side of floating leaves in quiet ponds. It usually has five arms, though I have observed six, and more rarely seven ; and this is also the case with the brown Hydra, which sometimes has but four arms. As in *H. viridis*, the arms of our green Hydra are shorter than the body.

July 12*th.*

The President, Dr. Ruschenberger, in the Chair.

Ten members present.

Poof. Leidy exhibited a fossil, submitted to his examination by the Smithsonian Institution. It consisted of a much mutilated portion of a ramus of the lower jaw of a large ruminant. The specimen, very friable and encrusted, was found 22 feet below the surface, in clay, on the "bench" or "second bottom" of Boyer River, Harrison Co., Iowa, and was presented to the Smiths. Inst. by D. R. Witter, of Woodbine, Iowa. Other bones were discovered in association with the specimen, but crumbled to pieces.

The jaw fragment was especially interesting, as it is supposed to belong to *Ovibos cavifrons*, and is the first specimen of a lower jaw yet discovered which may be attributed to that animal. It contains the last molar tooth nearly entire, but much worn. This tooth is constructed after the type of the corresponding one in the Sheep, and exhibits no trace of the accessory fold between the anterior and median pairs of lobes such as exists in the Ox, nor of a tubercle such as is found in the same position in the Deer. The fore and aft measurement of the crown of the tooth is full two inches; the width at the fore part of the crown is nearly an inch.

An isolated tooth, a last lower molar which had not yet protruded from the jaw, from Natchez, Mississippi, preserved in the Museum of the Academy, by comparison with the tooth in the jaw fragment, would appear to belong to the same animal. The specimen is two and a quarter inches long and three-fourths of an inch wide at the fore part, and is two inches in its antero-posterior measurement.

Mr. T. Hale Streets made the following remarks on the cranium of an owl:

Among the Academy's collection of birds' crania there is one belonging to a species of owl (supposed to be the *Nyctale acadica*), which presents a very remarkable instance of the want of symmetry in corresponding parts of opposite sides.

In this skull the squamous portion of the temporal bone is thin and scroll-like, and joins the post-frontal plate. What is interesting about it is the manner in which this union takes place. On the right side the lower end of the scroll-like squamous bone turns upward and forward, and unites with the post-frontal. On the left side the contrary to this is the case; the upper extremity of the bone curls over and joins the post-frontal, while the lower extremity is free.

If there had been but a single specimen of this cranium I would have been led to regard this instance of symmetry as abnormal; but as the same peculiarity of structure is presented by two (these being the only representatives of the species in the collection), it would rather suggest itself as a normal condition, although instances of coincidence of abnormality exist, especially in the lower forms of life.

July 19*th.*

The President, Dr. Ruschenberger, in the Chair.

Fourteen members present.

Prof. Leidy exhibited a fossil which had been submitted to his examination by Prof. Hayden, who obtained it on the Moreau River, a tributary of the Upper Missouri, and was probably derived from the cretaceous formation. The specimen consists of the body of a vertebra of a saurian, devoid of the neural arch, which was separated at the suture. It bears a resemblance to the corresponding part of *Nothosaurus*, a saurian of the triassic deposits of Europe. The body is cylindroid, moderately narrowed towards the middle, and has the articular ends slightly concave. The sutural connection of the neural arch, including transverse processes, extends some distance down the sides. The measurements of the specimen are as follow: Length of body inferiorly, 11½ lines; superiorly, 1 inch; depth in front, 11 lines; width, 10 lines.

The specimen probably indicates a marine saurian allied to *Nothosaurus*, and from its resemblance, the animal to which it belonged may be named *Nothosaurops occiduus*.

July 26th.

The President, Dr. Ruschenberger, in the Chair.

Ten members present.

On favorable report of the Committees, the following papers were ordered to be printed:

Descriptions of GRASSHOPPERS, from Colorado.

BY PROF. CYRUS THOMAS.

ANABRUS, Hald.

The characters of this genus were not fully given by Prof. Haldeman when he established it, and those subsequently added by Girard are scarcely sufficient to distinguish it from other closely allied genera. Having both sexes of three species, I give the following as the principle characters that distinguish it.

Gen. Char Head large, smooth, advanced in front between the antennæ. Pronotum selliform, extending over the base of the abdomen; rounded and smooth; anterior portion of the sides reaching below the eyes; posterior margin and angles rounded. Prosternum bidentate; posterior angles of the meso-sternum elevated and acute. Elytra very short, having the form of scales in the males; covered by the pronotum in the females. Antennæ longer than the body, sometimes extending beyond the ovipositor. Eyes ovate. Labrum round. Maxillary palpi twice the length of the labial; three outer joints nearly equal; terminal enlarged at the tip. Abdomen stout, moderate length; the sub-anal plate of the male large, slightly notched at the tip, furnished laterally with filiform appendages which appear to be articulated at the base; the cerci (or subsituted appendages) sub-cylindrical, enlarged and generally bifurcate at the extremity. Ovipositor long, bent beyond the middle. Cerci, in the female, small, generally hairy. Legs slender; posterior pair very long, femora enlarged next the body, but slender and straight beyond the middle, as long as the body (omitting the head); posterior tibiæ long as the femora, slender; all the tibiæ provided with four rows of spines, the anterior rows often scattered and apparently irregular. A stout denticuloid process above the anterior coxa. The tarsi broad, soles concave; third articulation cordate.

This genus differs so slightly, in description, from *Thyreonotus*, Serv., that there is scarcely a necessity for its retention. But an examination of the